

Lakeview Avenue – Street Layout Meeting February 6, 2012

Meeting Notes

Staff reviewed 2 main options for Lakeview Avenue; 1) street layout presented at the December meeting with chicanes and rain gardens (Option 1), and 2) a revised street layout with all of the available 4' or 5' of additional sidewalk width to be added to the westerly side of the street with wider grass strips (eliminating the chicanes) and no rain gardens between Huron Avenue and Worthington Street (Option 2). A third option was discussed that would approximately split the available sidewalk width evenly depending upon the presence of utility conflicts between the east and west sides of the street (Option 3).

- Street Layout: General support was for Option 2 providing the additional 4' of space on the west side of the street with a street profile of 7' parking, 5' bike lane' 10' travel lane, 7' parking. The main reason for providing all of the additional space on one side was to provide for optimum growing environment for street trees that are currently struggling beneath overhead utility lines. If adding all additional space to one side does not provide greater benefit for tree growth, then resident supported Option 3, dividing the additional space between both sides of the street. It was further discussed that if Option 3 was the final option that it is possible that the split could be someone uneven (2.5' and 1.5' or 3' and 1') due to existing utilities that are not being relocated that could interfere with relocating the curb line. The decision to move forward with Option 2 or Option 3 will be resolved by an assessment by the city arborist of the benefit to the trees to add 4' to one side of the street and a better understanding of the existing underground utilities and potential conflicts.
- <u>Bike Lane</u>: There was agreement that **a bike lane should be incorporated for the full length of Lakeview between Huron Avenue and Vassal Lane**. Residents recognize that this would mean a reduction in the amount of street width that could be devoted to green space from 5' to 4'.
- Traffic Calming (Lakeview): Although residents shared a concern with traffic speed along Lakeview, residents were divided over the best way to address this issue. Residents were divided over their support for the proposed raised crosswalk on Lakeview at Malcolm. The City and residents agreed to eliminate the raised crossing in favor of bump outs and a street level marked crosswalk on the north corner of Lakeview/Malcolm. The bump outs and street level crosswalk on Lakeview at Worthington were supported, and it was generally agreed that the bump outs would help improve the poor visibility around an existing fence on the southwest corner of Worthington/Lakeview. Requests were made for stop signs, speed bumps and/or a traffic light at this location, but were understood to be not appropriate for this location. Concerns were raised about the speed of traffic and the failure of vehicles to stop at the end of Lakeview at Vassal. The City agreed to look at tightening the northeast corner of Lakeview at Vassal through either a curb realignment or pavement markings (If the sidewalks on the east side of Lakeview between Worthington and Vassal are not being reconstructed, then the realignment will be indicated through pavement markings, if the sidewalks on the east side of Lakeview between Worthington and Vassal are reconstructed, then the curb should be realigned.
- <u>Parking</u>: Residents expressed concern with the increase to "unrestricted" parking on the west side of Lakeview north of Worthington, since local resident do not often use this area to park.

The City agreed that we would replace the planted bump out across from 267 Lakeview (eliminating approximately 3 spaces) and not increase parking in this area.

- Raingarden at Lakeview/Vassal: The resident at the corner of Lakeview and Vassal did not want to see the existing 2 trees removed to install a raingarden at the corner. Residents requested that the city investigate the potential to relocate the raingarden on the southwest corner adjacent to the car dealership.
- Expanded Green Space at car dealership:
 - <u>Lakeview between Worthington and Vassal</u>: Residents were supportive of the additional planting area along the back of sidewalk. It was felt that the additional area would allow for a better opportunity to screen the dealership with enhanced landscape and provide an opportunity for better plant selection. Some residents raised concern with maintenance of the area and requested that the City provide more oversight of the plantings.
 - 2. Worthington Street between Lakeview and Lexington: During the December meeting the City was requested to look at whether the landscaping around the car dealership could be widened along the Worthington Street edge to match up with proposed improvements along Lakeview. As part of Option 2 the curb line on the northern side of Worthington Street was move south increasing the amount of space that would be available to landscape screening. Moving the curb line would result in the loss of all parking along Worthington Street. No one was present from Worthington Street. It was reported that one resident from Worthington Street liked the addition of additional screening of the dealership along Worthington Street, but was unable to attend the meeting. No further discussion of the option was discussed at the meeting.
 Worthington Street curb changes will not be included in streetscape improvements unless a budget is available to expand the scope of the project.
- Vassal Lane: A couple of residents were present that had a concern with the traffic rounding the corner from Lakeview onto Vassal and speed on Vassal. Their suggestions for speed bumps, raised tables and warning lights were discussed. They were satisfied that the tightening of the southeast corner of Lakeview at Vassal would help improve the likelihood that vehicles will stop before rounding the corner onto Vassal, and that the future redevelopment and programming of the Tobin School would be a more appropriate time to address bus/vehicle/student access to the school.
- Miscellaneous:
 - ✓ There was a request to leave the existing fire hydrant at 223 Lakeview in its existing location do not relocate it. The City agreed to consider leaving the fire hydrant in its current location.
 - ✓ Maintenance of expanded green spaces was discussed. Any areas that where sidewalks are widened to provide for additional grass strips would be the responsibility of the adjacent property owner. The enhanced planting area adjacent to the car dealership and any rain garden would be the primary responsibility of the City.

The meeting was adjourned at 8 PM.